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SENIOR DEMOCRATIC MEMBER
COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT REFORM

MEMBER
COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0530

HENRY A. WAXMAN
30TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

July 18, 2005

Ms. Anna Davis
Director, Office of Congressional Relations
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 404
Washington, D.C. 20580-0002

Dear Ms. Davis:

I am writing on behalf of Martin Katz, who resides at 9540 Brighton Way, Beverly Hills, California, 90210.

Martin Katz is a jeweler in my congressional district. He is concerned about proposed changes in FTC guidelines for Jewelry, Precious Metals, and Pewter Industries that would allow products composed of 50-85% pure platinum to be represented as "platinum." He believes the maximum allowable level of base metals in platinum products should be capped at 5%. I have enclosed his letter for your review and would appreciate your response to his concern.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

HENRY A. WAXMAN
Member of Congress

HAW:mp

Martin Katz, Ltd.

May 9, 2005

The Honorable Henry Waxman
U.S. House of Representatives
2204 RHOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Henry Waxman:

I write on behalf of Martin Katz, Ltd., a company with 8 employees to request that you contact the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to ensure that only appropriate products are represented as "platinum." The FTC is responsible to regulating the market of platinum products to ensure that consumers purchasing such products are not deceived.

The FTC will soon be seeking public comment on whether the Guides should be amended to address products composed of 50-85% pure platinum and no other platinum group metals (PGMs, which are platinum-like metals). Industry has historically understood that the FTC Guides for the Jewelry, Precious Metals, and Pewter Industries (Guides) limit the maximum amount of base metals present in a "platinum" product to 5%. We believe lower purity products containing significant levels of base metals (such as cobalt and copper) should not be represented as platinum, and believe the allowable percentage of base metals should be formally capped at 5%. Base metals have different properties than PGMs, and inclusion of base metals over 5% in a product containing platinum may result in jewelry that contains very different properties than traditional platinum products.

We believe that the consumer's trust, belief, and confidence in the purity, look, feel and weight of platinum jewelry results from the almost universal use of high purity platinum jewelry alloys. Products containing more than 5% base metals have the potential to cause significant consumer confusion and deception. Accordingly, we respectfully request that you write the FTC and urge the agency to limit the amount

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of base metals in platinum products to 5%, and have the agency amend the Guides to ensure that products composed of 50-85% pure platinum and no other PGMs are not represented as "platinum."

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Martin Katz
Martin Katz, Ltd.